UNITED NATIONS **S**

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1996/771
23 September 1996
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

LETTER DATED 23 SEPTEMBER 1996 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you that at 1600 hours on 17 September 1996, an Iraqi patrol boat carrying out its duties came under fire from two Kuwaiti patrol boats of the Viper class, which were equipped with PKS machine-guns. The Iraqi patrol boat was badly damaged as a result of the incident.

I would request you to intervene with Kuwait in order to bring an end to such hostile acts, which are in contravention of the Charter of the United Nations and international law, constitute unjustified military provocation and create tension and instability.

I reaffirm the legitimate right of the Republic of Iraq to compensation for the material losses sustained as a consequence of these hostile acts.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nizar HAMDOON
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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